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Docket No. 55802

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Watkins et al.
SERIAL NO.: 09/840,014 GROUP: 1614
FILED: April 19, 2001
FOR: METHODS FOR PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF
GASTROINTESTINAL DISORDERS

THE HONORABLE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
WASHINGTON, DC 20231

SIR:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel without prejudice claim 8-12, 21-23, 26-28, 30-34, 36-41, 45-48, 50 and 52.

Please amend the following claims.

4. (amended) The method of claim 1 or 2 wherein the amount of the administered compound is sufficient to increase neuronal cyclic guanosine 3'-monophosphate (cGMP) levels as measured by a standard cGMP assay.

5. (amended) The method of claim 1 or 2 wherein the gastrointestinal disorder is characterized by hypomotility or hypermotility in at least one of the small intestine, large intestine, colon, esophagus or stomach.

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